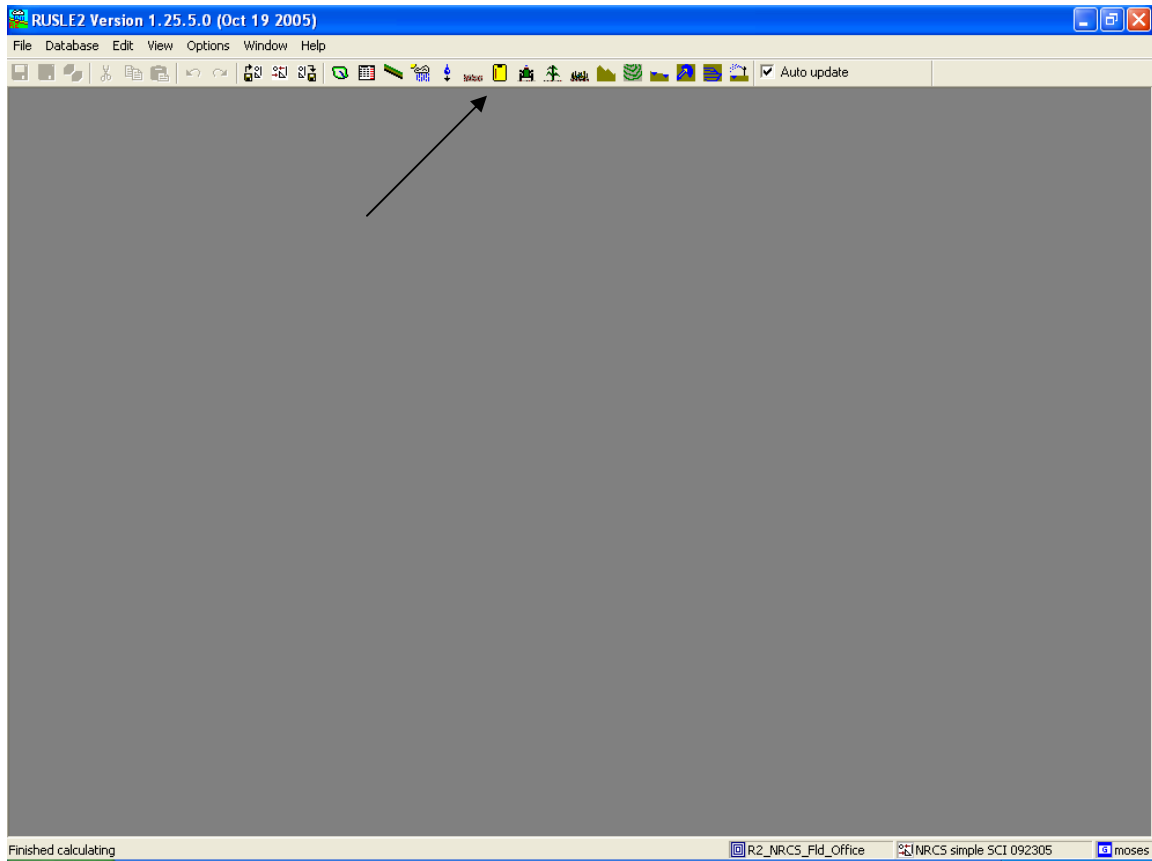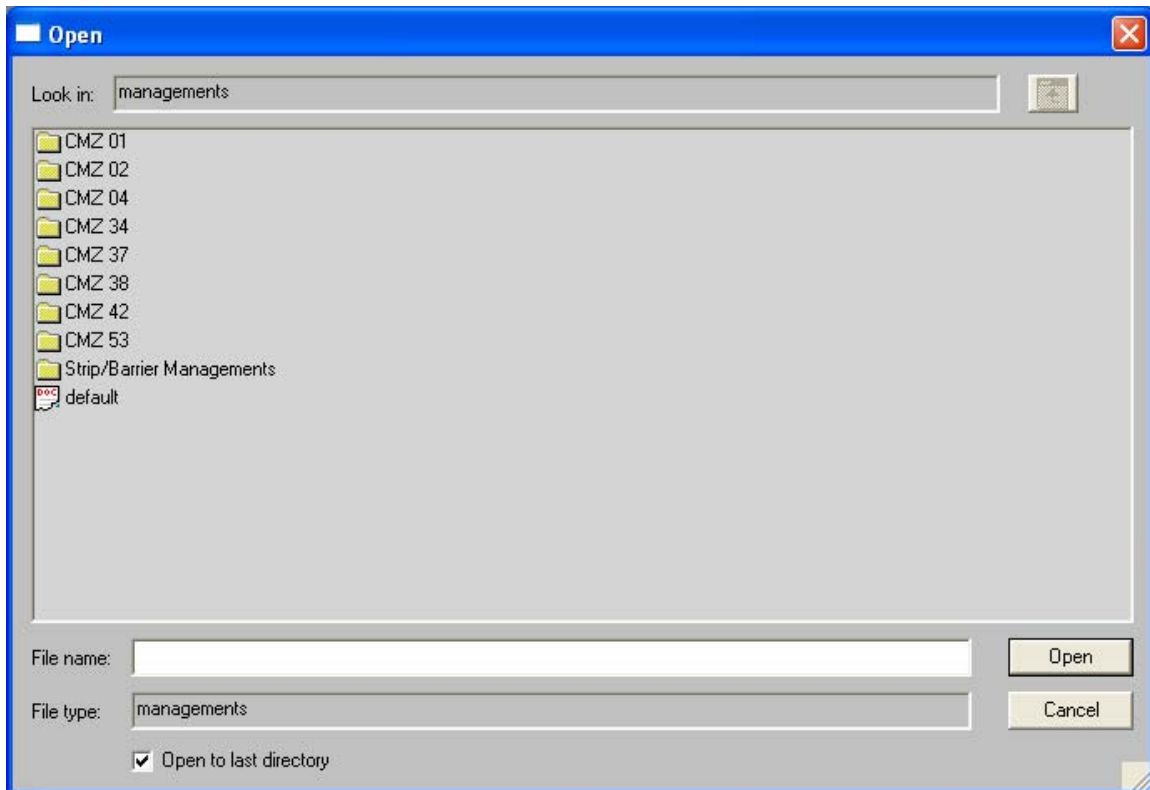# Building a new rotation in Rusle2

In the RUSLE2 program, a rotation is called a management. When you are building a new rotation, always start from the **Management** icon at the top of the window. It looks like a yellow clipboard.

Click on the yellow clipboard to open the management screen.

Click on the CMZ folder for the zone you want to build the rotation for. In this example, we chose CMZ2. Now click on folder a: **Single Year/Single Crop Templates**.
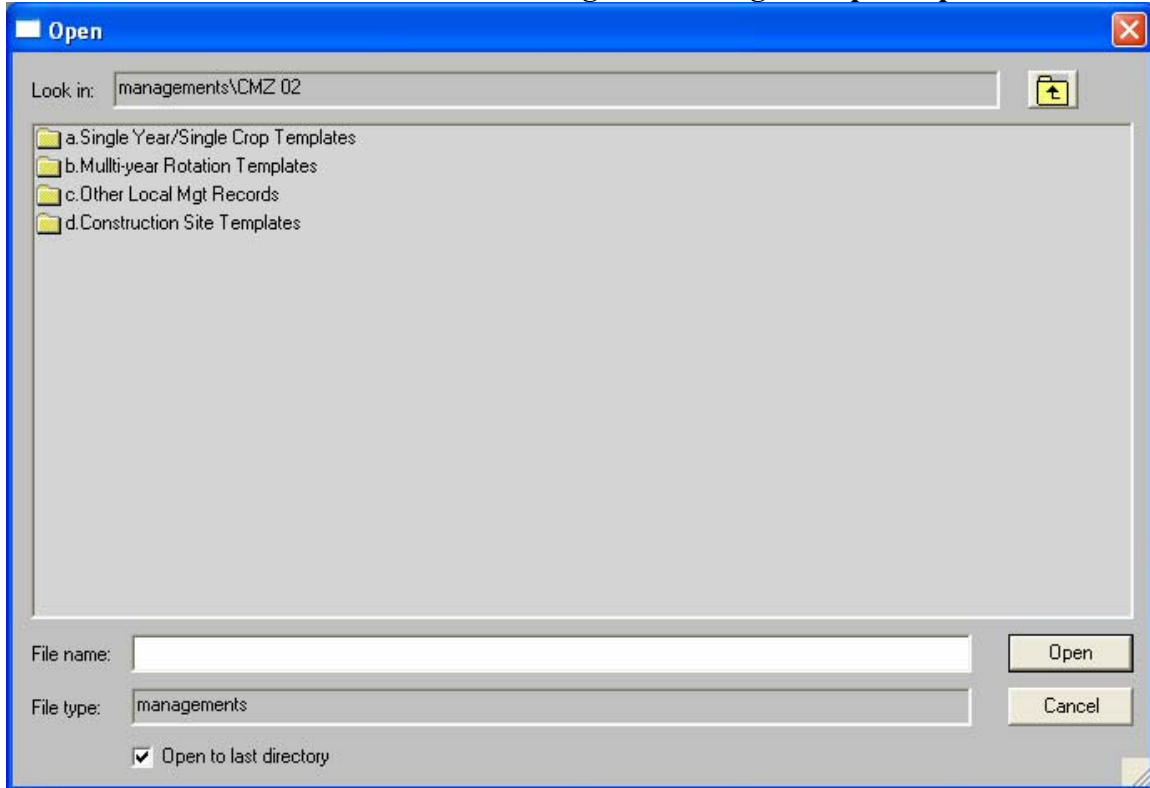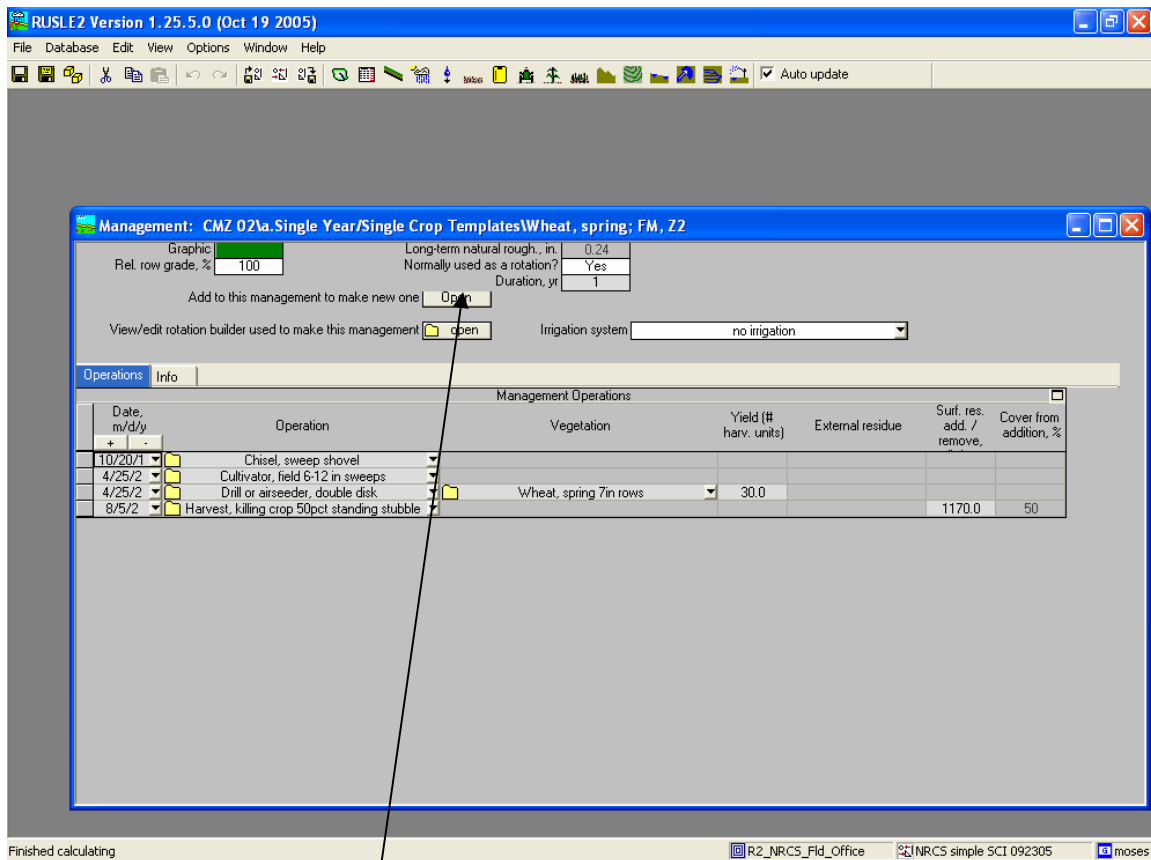

IMPORTANT NOTE: ALWAYS start from the single year / single crop folder and build your rotation from this point. If the crop you want to use is not in folder a:, contact the state agronomist.
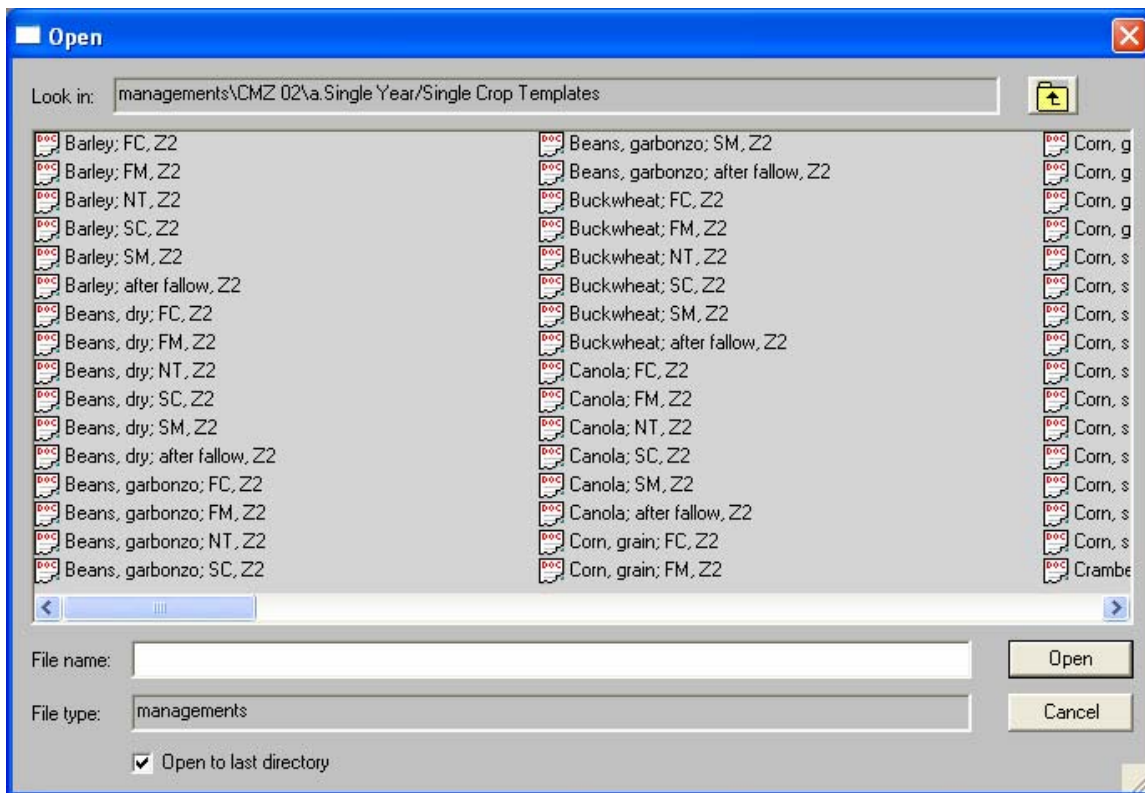
When you open folder **a**, you will get this list of crops. Chose the first crop in the rotation that you want to build and click on it.
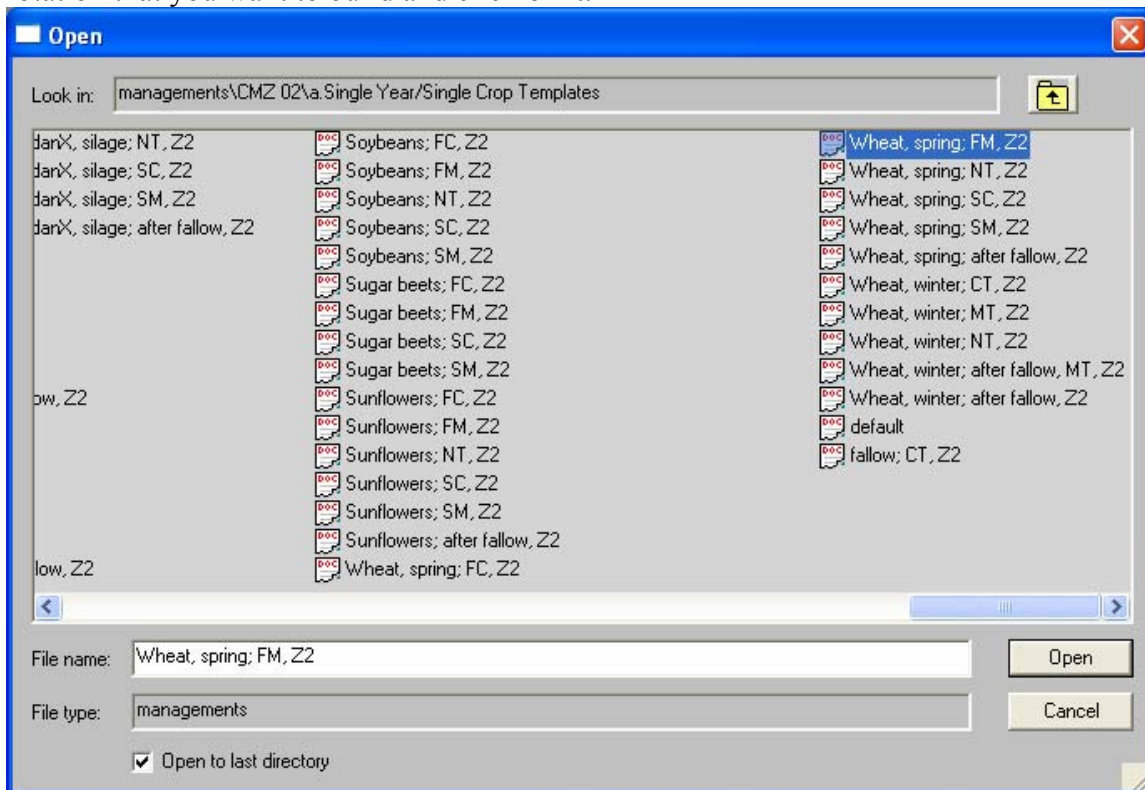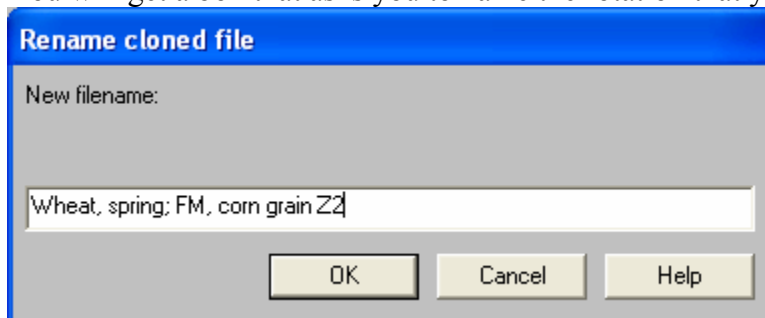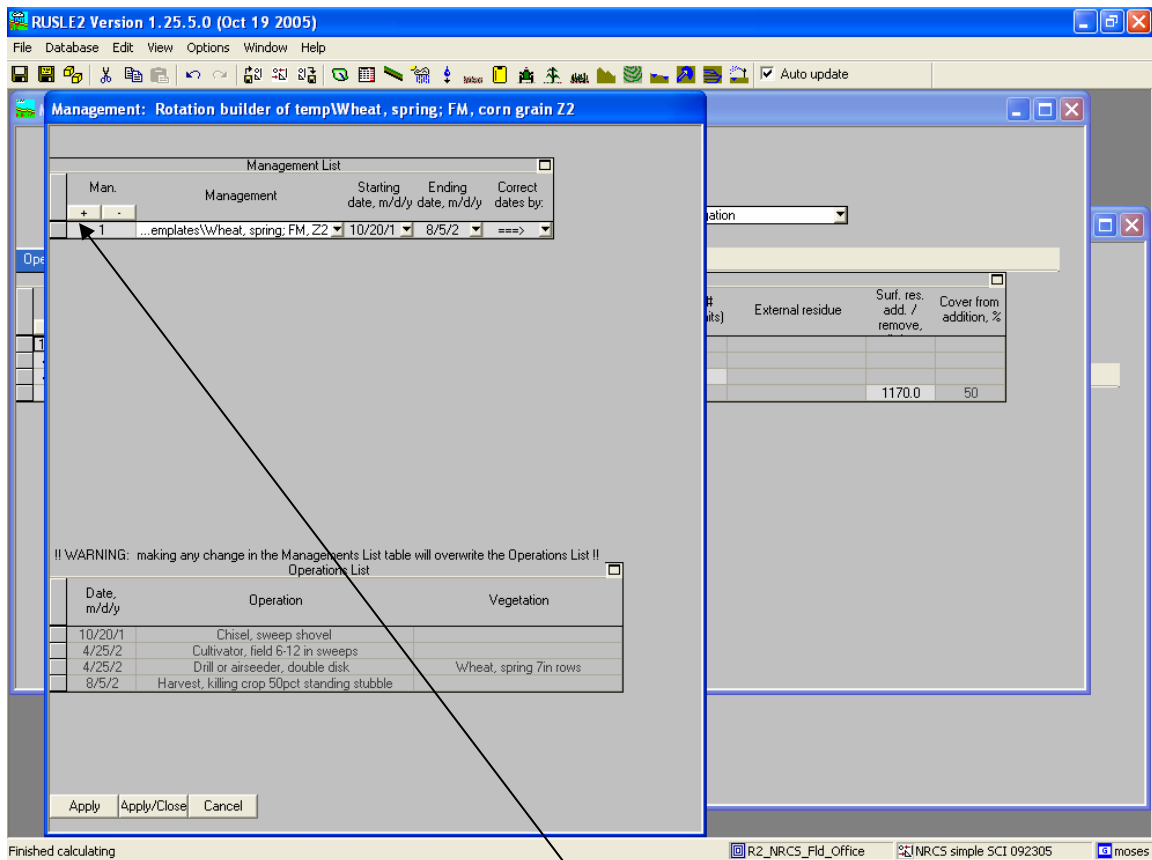

Click open.

This is your first crop. Now to add a second crop to the rotation, click the "open" button that says "**Add to this management to make a new one**".

You will get a box that asks you to name the rotation that you are going to build:

Type the name of your new rotation and click "ok".

RUSLE2 Version 1.25.5.0 (Oct 19 2005)

File   Database   Edit   View   Options   Window   Help

☑ Auto update

Management: Rotation builder of temp\Wheat, spring; FM, corn grain Z2

Management List

Man.	Management	Starting date, m/d/y	Ending date, m/d/y	Correct dates by:
+ -				
▶ 1	...emplates\Wheat, spring; FM, Z2 ▾	10/20/1 ▾	8/5/2 ▾	===> ▾

		# its)	External residue	Surf. res. add. / remove,	Cover from addition, %
				1170.0	50

!! WARNING: making any change in the Managements List table will overwrite the Operations List !!

Operations List

Date, m/d/y	Operation	Vegetation
10/20/1	Chisel, sweep shovel	
4/25/2	Cultivator, field 6-12 in sweeps	
4/25/2	Drill or airseeder, double disk	Wheat, spring 7in rows
8/5/2	Harvest, killing crop 50pct standing stubble	

Apply   Apply/Close   Cancel

Finished calculating   R2_NRCS_Fld_Office   NRCS simple SCI 092305   moses

That opens up the rotation builder screen. In the top box (Management List), click on the
"+" sign, under "Man.", on the left side of the screen.

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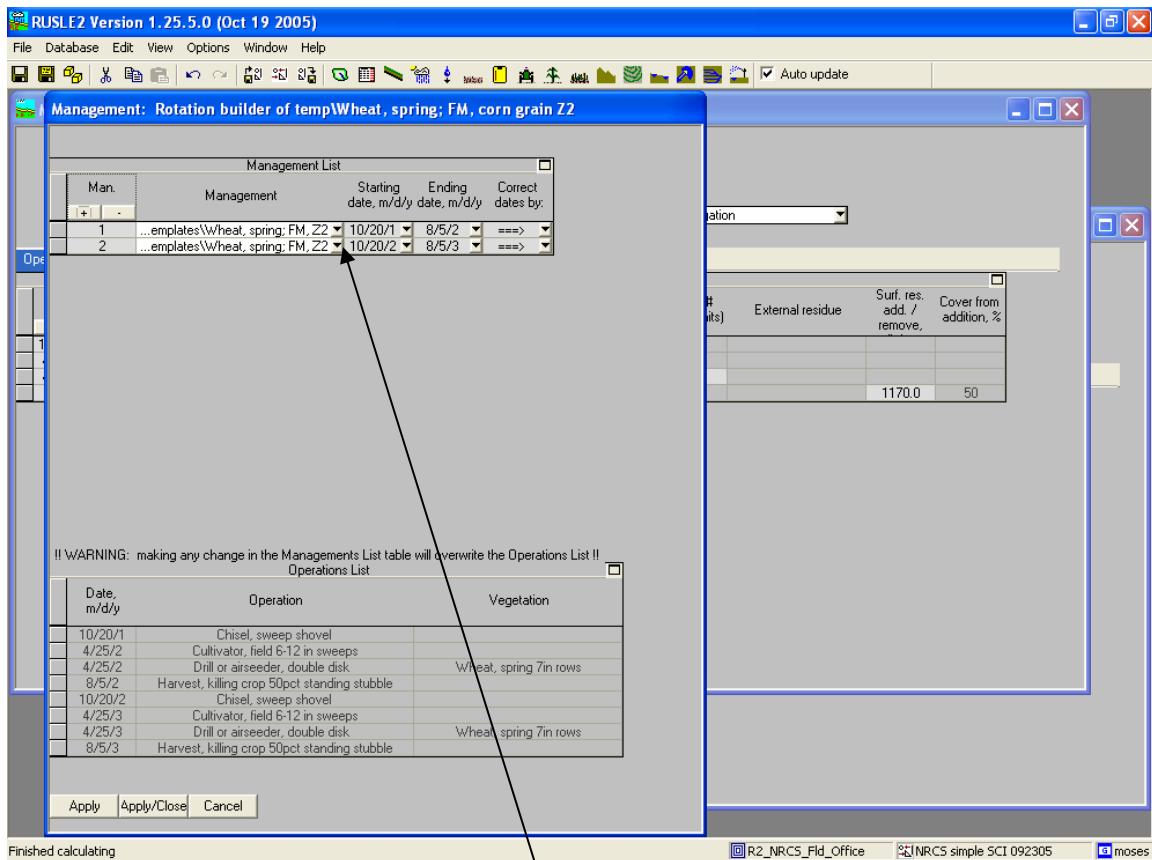
This adds a second line (2), which is a copy of line (1). Click on the drop down arrow on the right side of line (2) to get to the crop list.
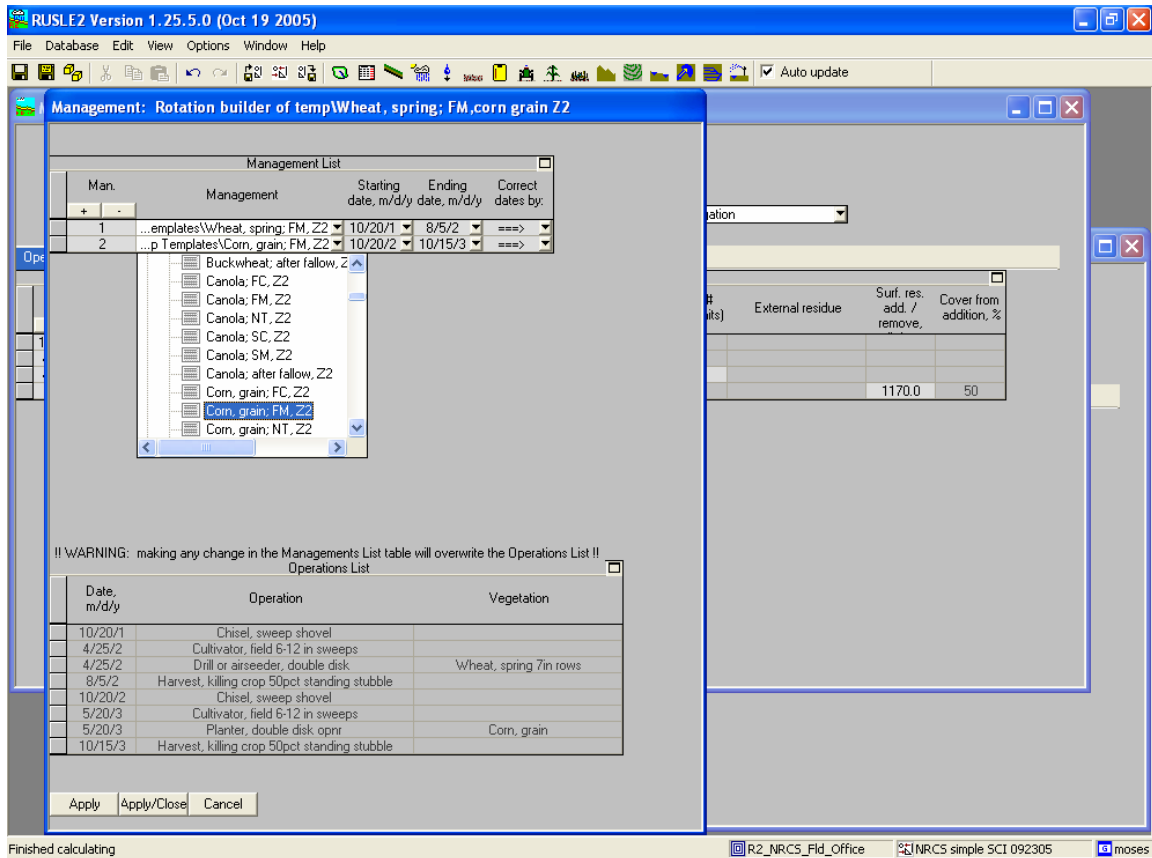
You now have the entire list of crops for CMZ2. Scroll up or down the list to find the second crop that you want to have in your rotation. In this example, we chose **corn, grain with fall mulch tillage** for our second crop in our rotation. Click on this crop choice.

You now have two crops in your rotation.
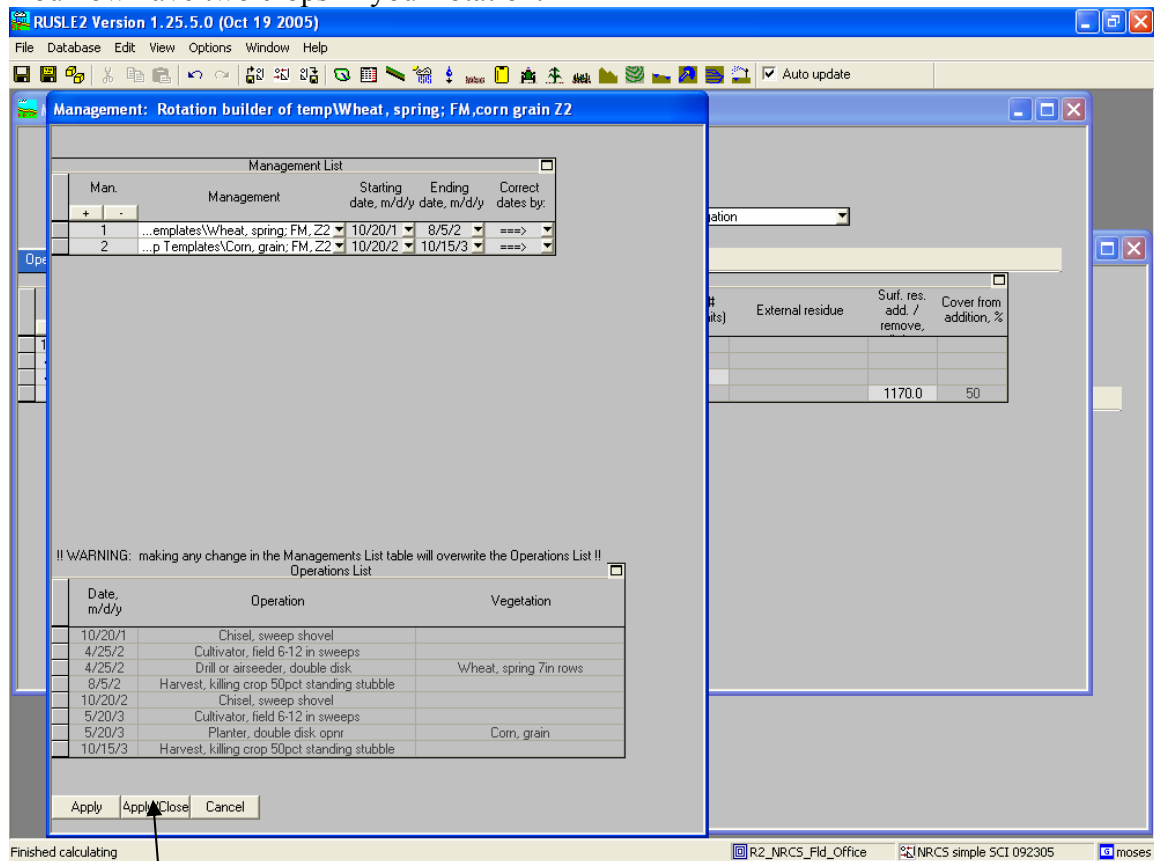
Continue with this process until you have all of the crops that you want in your rotation listed. You notice that as you add crops on the top of the screen, they are displayed on the bottom of the screen, with the associated tillage.

IMPORTANT NOTE: You do not have to enter the tillage equipment or any of the planting or harvest dates – all of this is already associated with the crop (in this example, wheat or corn) and tillage system (in this example, FM) that you choose in the drop down box. **If you have been doing this, you have been building rotations incorrectly**. Choose the crops and tillage that is closest to what the producer is actually doing. If you need to make some changes, you can do that later. Instructions on how to make those changes are on the next page.

When you have chosen all of your crops, click the "Apply / Close" button at the bottom of the screen.

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You now have your new rotation. The next thing to check is the Yield – there will be a default yield that comes with each crop, but often this is not a correct yield. In this screen you can type in the yield you want to use for each crop.
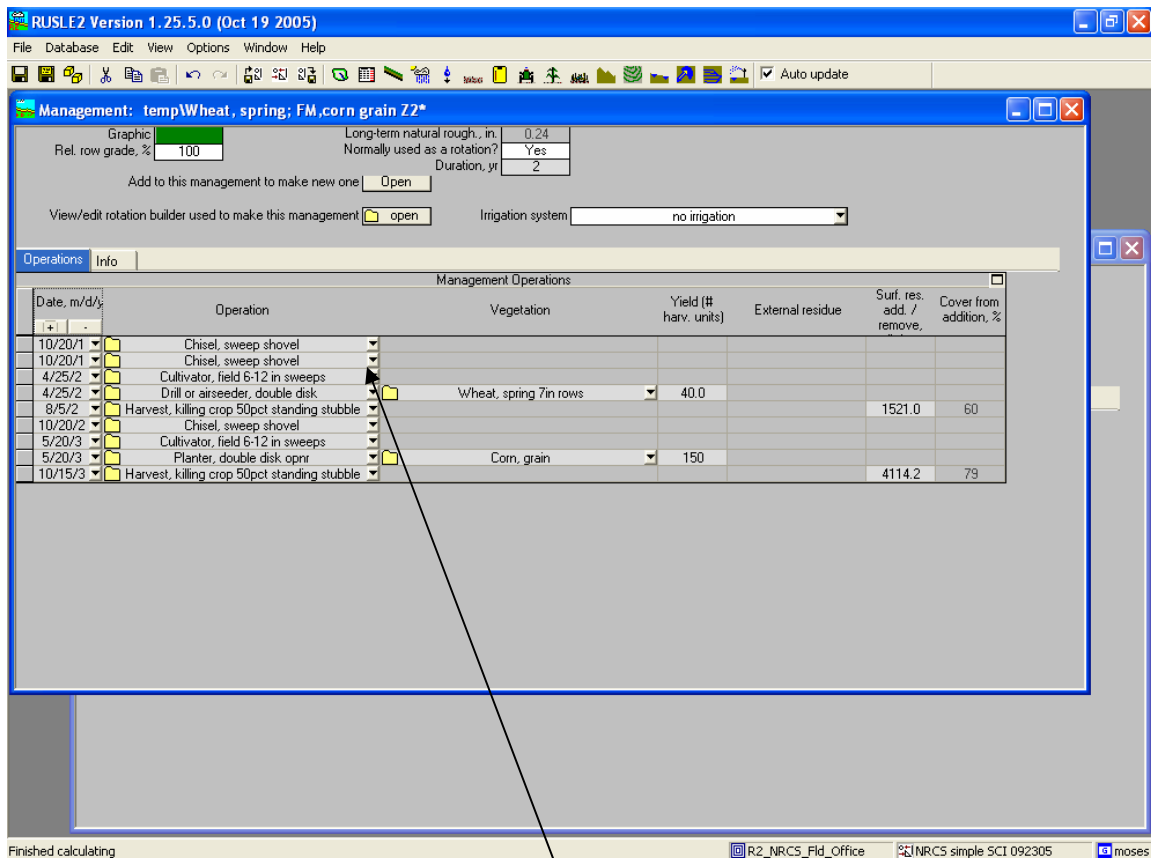
In this screen you can also change the tillage equipment, or add an additional tillage trip in the fall or the spring. That is done by clicking on the "+" button above the date column. This adds an additional line, which will be a copy of the line above it. You then use the drop down arrow on the left side of the line to access the list of equipment.

You may also need to change the date on this line, if the tillage is done on a different day that the operation on the line above.

DO NOT CHANGE ANY OF THE OTHER DATES. These are set average dates for the crops and operations in each zone and are not to be changed except for very limited circumstances. See the "Additions to RUSLE2 Users Guide" for additional information on dates.

In general, you should not have to add or change equipment very often because there are quite a few tillage variations already built in the "single year / single crop" folder. If the "Corn, FM" file does not give you the tillage operations that you want, go back to the rotation builder and choose another corn file from the "single year / single crop" folder. Since producers often vary the kind and amount of tillage they do based on any number of factors (weather, yield of previous crop, insect problems, etc. etc.), you are simply trying to model their average system. Many of the slight changes do not make a significant change in your answers, so don't worry about making every change for every producer. A large number of rotations have already been build for all of the CMZs and

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are in the "c: other local managements" folder. If you do not have those, contact your Area Resource Conservationist and they can be added to your RUSLE2 database.
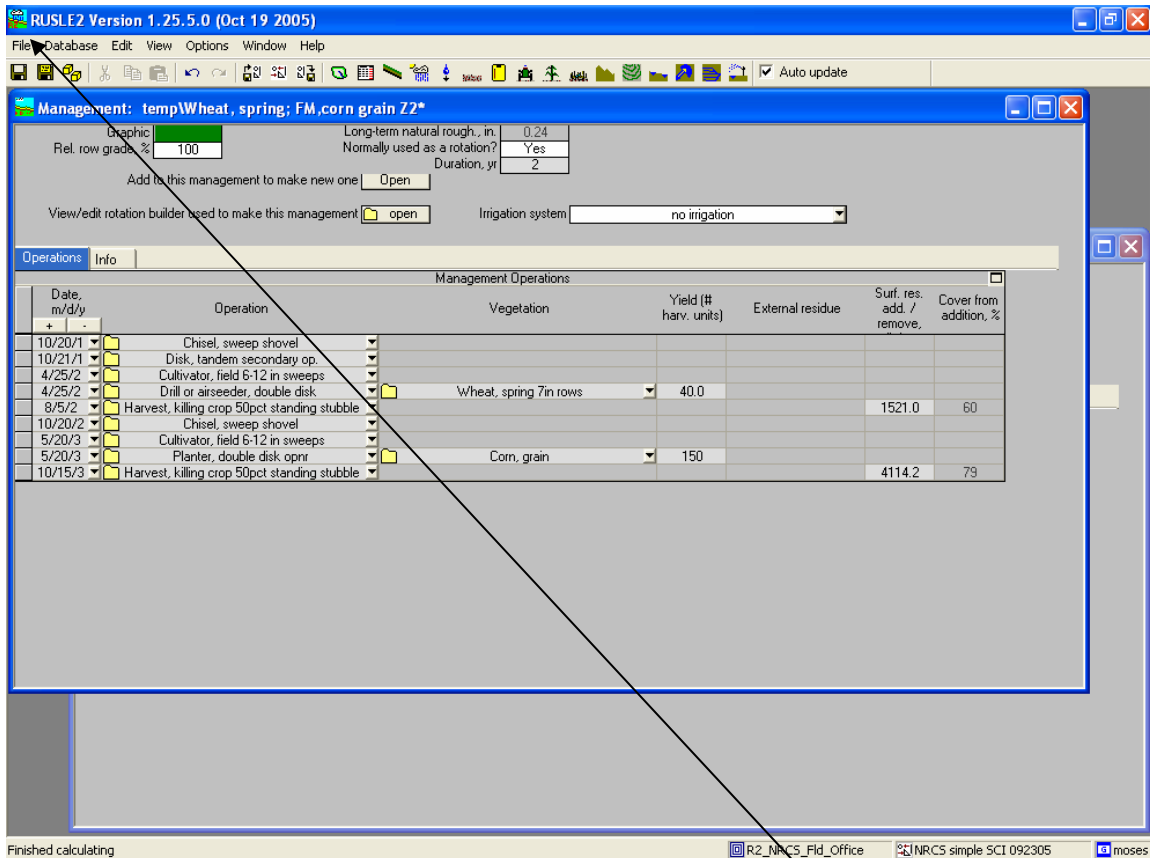

When you have your rotation completed and have entered the yield information, save this rotation by clicking on the "File, Save as" button on the menu bar.
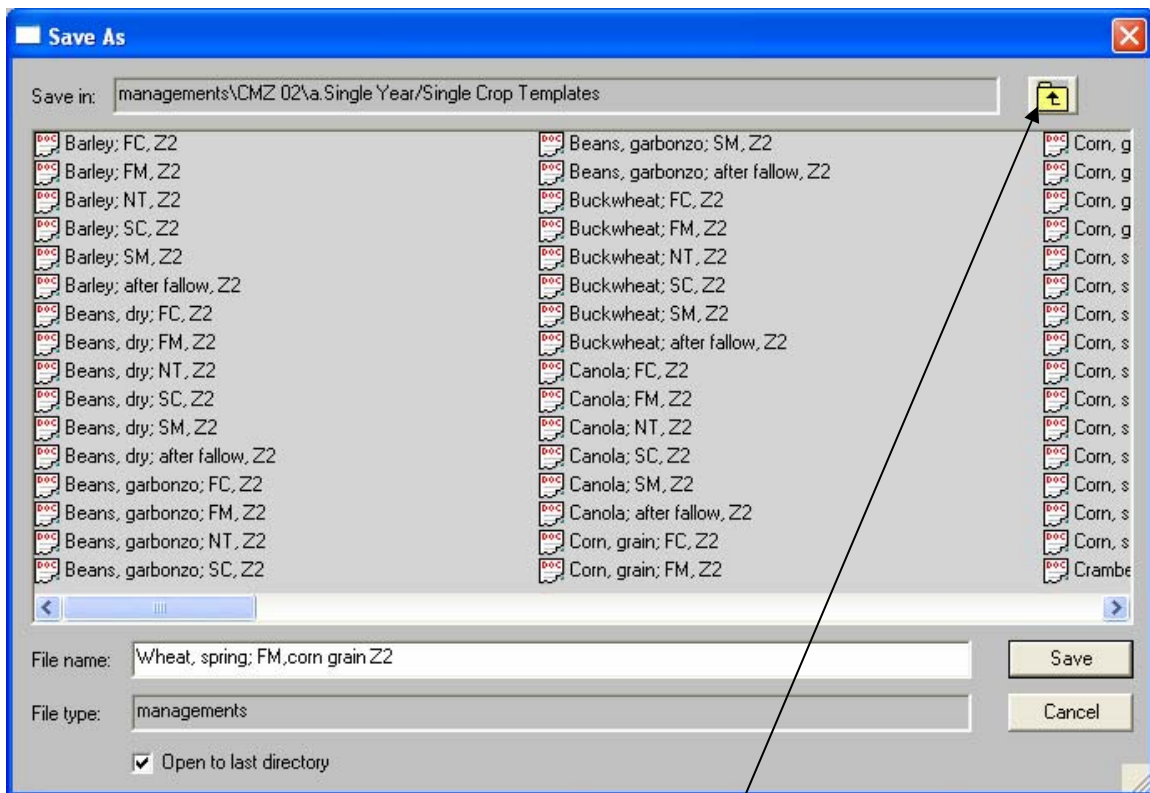
Look in the box labeled "Save in". You want to save all of the rotations that you build in the "c: other local managements" folder. You get to that folder by clicking on the up arrow in the yellow folder on the right side of this box.
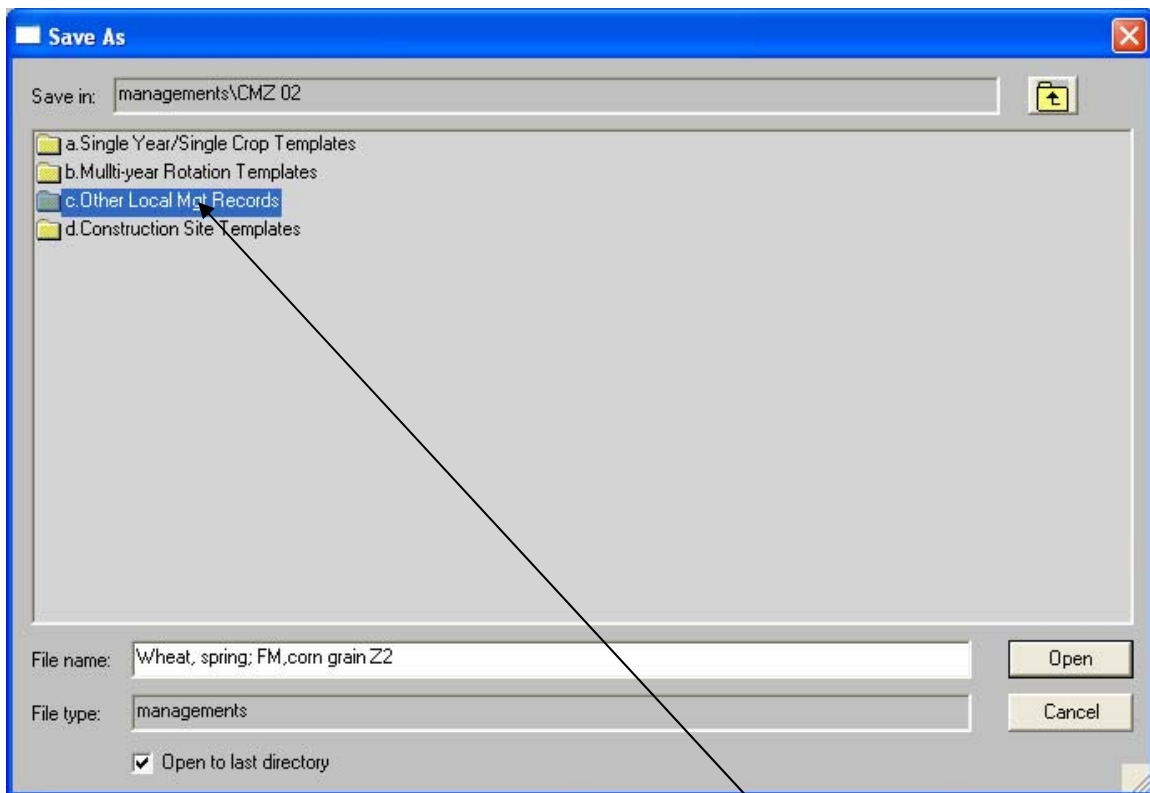
Highlight the "c. Other Local Mgt. Records" and click open
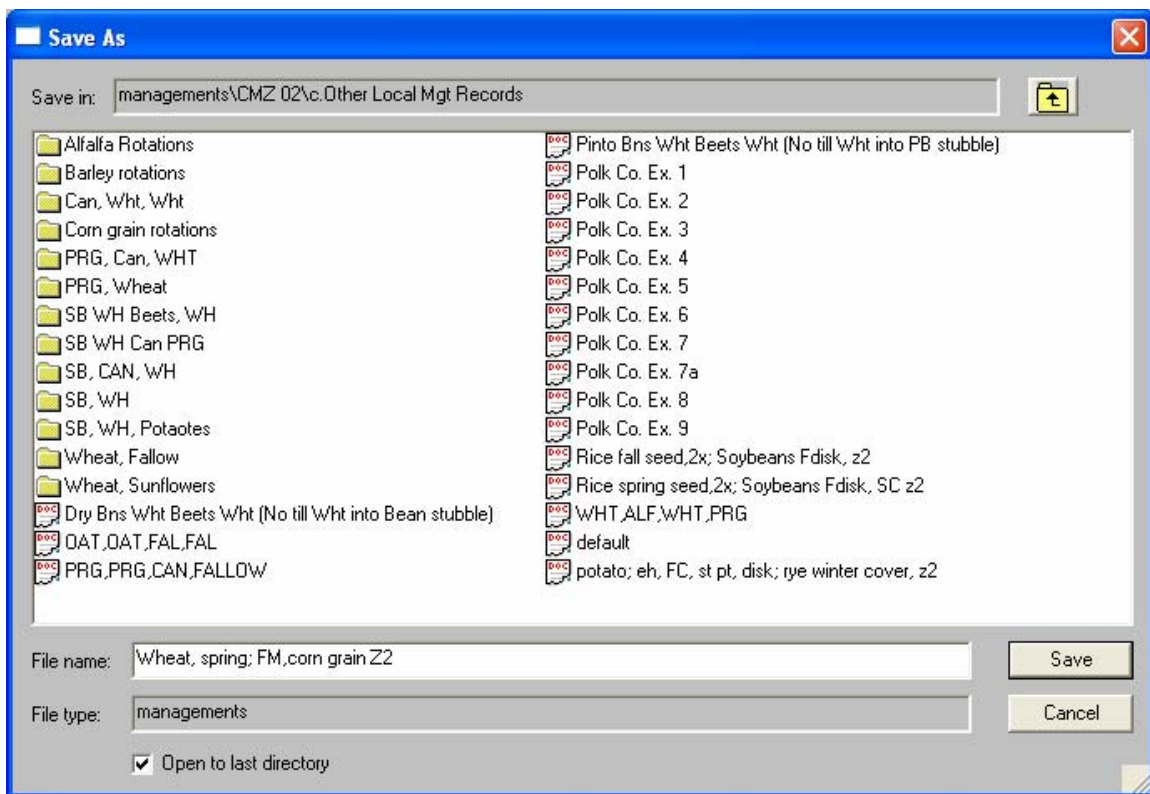
You will get this screen. The name of your rotation will be in the box labeled "File name". Click save. Now this rotation will be available for you to use in the profile, worksheet or plan screens.